

FAR 121.383(c) should be abolished or amended because it's prohibiting the use of a pilot after his/her 60th birthday deprives the individual of livelihood without justification, and for the following additional reasons:

A. It is widely recognized within the airline industry that the "age 60 and out" rule was promulgated in 1958 by the first administrator as a favor to an airline president who was engaged in a contract dispute with his pilots, and who wanted the action as a way to get rid of the most senior, highly paid captains.

B. There was never any medical or other scientific justification presented for the rule, and studies conducted recently have shown that there is no such justification now; indeed studies by Stanford University and the VA as well as the FAA's own Medical Institute have shown that any presumed loss of reflex response time or cognitive acuity in "older" pilots is more than compensated for by their experience levels.

C. Most other countries, including Japan, Australia, and the European Union have either gone to higher limit ages (65), or made continued flight activity by their airline pilots dependent only on the ability to pass their medical exams.

It is obvious that the "60 and out" rule is baseless, discriminatory, economically punitive and deprives the U.S. airline industry of some of its most experienced and able pilots.